

July 9, 2007

Chairman Collin Peterson,
House Agriculture Committee
2211 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Chairman Peterson:

As the grassroots dairy producer organization in Minnesota, the Minnesota Milk Producers Association is writing to express our strong support for the Chairman's Mark of the Farm Bill.

We are pleased to see that the Mark contains most of the programs and positions we have been advocating as necessary to achieving an effective safety net for producers with a strong price support program, balanced risk management and fair market-building provisions. MMPA does ask the Chairman to consider giving dairy producers the opportunity to forward contract with proprietary processors as well as Cooperative processors.

We also commend the work the Committee has done on the Conservation, Nutrition and Energy Titles. EQIP and CSP are two programs that have proven effective for Minnesota dairy producers. Continued support on these areas is greatly appreciated. The Chairman's Mark has clearly been put together with careful consideration of the needs of production agriculture in mind.

The Minnesota Milk Producers Association strongly supports maintaining the dairy provisions of the Chairman's Mark as they currently stand when the full Committee moves to consideration of the Farm Bill next week. The Minnesota Milk Producers Association, along with our members, will work to see this bill through to a successful passage in the Agriculture Committee and ultimately the full House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Bob Lefebvre
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